

has calculated that where coal cannot be had cheap, ten acres of land must be set apart for the supply of fuel for each family of five persons; and it is well known that in such countries as Norway and Sweden, great part of the surface of the country is kept in forest for that purpose.

Further west than Lake Huron, the British frontier bends to the north by the margin of Lake Superior, and beyond that keeps the parallel of 49° north latitude, so that there is no large extent of land in reserve well fitted for agricultural purposes, as there is on the American side. The climate is too severe.

Of late years the progress of Canada has been rapid, which has given rise to different conclusions respecting it. The Canada officials have triumphantly cited it, in comparison with that of the older and eastern States of New England; and on the other side, a writer has no less triumphantly compared with it, the advance of the newly-formed States on its western frontier. Each party has taken those points of the comparison which favoured the conclusion they wished to establish, and neglected the others.

In the old States population is tolerably dense, 130 to 60 per square mile, and the land all occupied. In consequence, migration takes place from them to the new States, where large quantities of fertile land are yet lying waste, and labour is in great demand. It is doubtful, however, whether the main fact in question, viz. the progress of Canada West, has yet been correctly ascertained, for I have seen a statement that for the first of the periods (1831), the population has only been estimated.